

Joy Brewer Committee Clerk State of Michigan

**September 10, 2013** 

RE: Support for HB 4792 and HB 4799

Dear Criminal Justice Committee Members:

This letter is intended to show our support for HB 4792 and HB 4799 to promote safe, secure roads for non-motorized users; bicyclists, pedestrians or wheelchair users. CycleSafe, Inc. is a Michigan design manufacturing company for over 33 years of providing safe, secure bicycle parking products to enhance and encourage active communities. We know that safe roads are essential to promoting community cycling and other opportunities for pedestrians and wheelchair mobility.

European communities have adopted strict penalties and standards to promote safe roads as well as many communities and states in this country. Complete Streets ordinances have initiated movements towards more inclusive roadways, of which our state has lead the nation with over 90 communities implementing action to promote active transportation such as biking and walking.

Vulnerable roadway users need to have enforceable laws that protect their rights to the road, which will stimulate more bike lanes and awareness of shared use. The ultimate goal is active, healthy communities that embrace alternative transportation with multi-modal use combining walking, biking and transit.

To remain a viable option, to promote safe roads, Michigan needs to have the legal backing to protect the rights of non-motorized users. Similar laws have been enacted to protect construction workers, children or assistants in school zones, or farm vehicles that use our roads and have rights.

We support educational efforts to increase awareness among Michigan drivers and non-motorized users. Programs such as Complete Streets, Share the Road and encouraging bike lanes and cycle tracks provide avenues to promote active, healthy communities.

We strongly urge you to vote in favor of HB4792 and HB 4799 to promote active, healthy communities here in Michigan.

Sincerely,

Susan Hartger Vice President CycleSafe, Inc.